

01/28/02 MON 19:08 FAX 800 841 2255

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January 28, 2002

Attorney General John Ashcroft  
U.S. Department of Justice  
950 Pennsylvania Avenue, NW  
Washington, DC 20530-0001

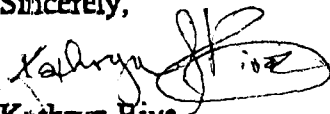
Dear Mr. Ashcroft,

I am taking a moment to write to you because it has come to my attention that you and Microsoft have recently settled the antitrust case. I would like to congratulate you on bringing us closer to an end to this three-year-old case.

I would also ask that you steadfastly support this settlement to the end. Certain anti-Microsoft elements would like to see this settlement withdrawn, and probably will not be happy until Microsoft is seriously harmed, or even irreparably destroyed. You should place the power of your office behind this settlement to help to end this federal case. Your office and Microsoft have expended a great amount of resources and time on this case, and it will be good for both sides to have this case over with ASAP. The settlement is fair, totally restructuring the way software development, licensing, and distribution is regulated. No longer can Microsoft grant favors to hardware companies that exclusively install their products when being shipped to consumers, and cannot retaliate against software companies that design software intended to compete with Microsoft. Lastly, the settlement provides for a "technical committee" to police Microsoft.

Let Microsoft and your personnel get to work on the issues of the future. Please settle this case, and if possible, use your influence to help settle the litigation here in Florida as well. Thank you.

Sincerely,

  
Kathryn Riva